

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for reducing the aerodynamic drag of a wheeled vehicle in a flowstream, said vehicle having a vehicle body and a wheel assembly supporting the vehicle body from thereunder, comprising:

a baffle assembly ~~having means for mounting~~ including a wedge-shaped skirt mountable to the wheeled vehicle underneath the vehicle body and upstream in front of the wheel assembly, said wedge-shaped skirt comprising two panels connected to each other at leading ends thereof and diverging away from each other to trailing ends located adjacent the wheel assembly so as to deflect airflow away from the wheel assembly and reduce the incident pressure thereon.

Claims 2-9 (canceled)

10. (currently amended) An aerodynamic bluff-bodied vehicle comprising:

a vehicle body;

a rear wheel assembly supporting the vehicle body from thereunder near a tail end of the vehicle body; and

a baffle assembly located upstream of the rear wheel assembly for deflecting airflow away from the rear wheel assembly to reduce the incident pressure thereon, said baffle assembly positioned underneath the vehicle body in front of the rear wheel assembly, and including a wedge-shaped skirt comprising two panels extending down from the underside of the vehicle body, the two panels connected to each other at leading ends thereof, and diverging away from each other to trailing ends located adjacent the rear wheel assembly.

Claim 11-17 (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The aerodynamic bluff-bodied vehicle of claim ~~11~~ 10,

wherein the aerodynamic bluff bodied vehicle is a trailer of a tractor-trailer arrangement, with the vehicle body of the trailer having a leading end supportable by a tractor, and a trailing end supported by the rear wheel assembly.

19. (new) An apparatus for reducing the aerodynamic drag of a wheeled vehicle in a flowstream, said vehicle having a vehicle body and a wheel assembly supporting the vehicle body from thereunder, comprising:

a baffle assembly mountable underneath the vehicle body and upstream in front of the wheel assembly so as to deflect airflow away from the

wheel assembly and reduce the incident pressure thereon, said baffle assembly including:

a wedge-shaped skirt comprising two panels adapted to extend down from the underside of the vehicle body when mounted thereto, the two panels connected to each other at leading ends thereof and diverging away from each other to trailing ends located adjacent the wheel assembly; and

a third panel having a leading end, and a trailing end connected to the leading end of the wedge-shaped skirt.

20. (new) An aerodynamic bluff-bodied vehicle comprising:

a vehicle body;

a rear wheel assembly near a tail end of the vehicle body for supporting the vehicle body from thereunder; and

a baffle assembly located underneath the vehicle body and upstream in front of the rear wheel assembly for deflecting airflow away from the rear wheel assembly to reduce the incident pressure thereon, said baffle assembly including:

a wedge-shaped skirt comprising two panels extending down from the underside of the vehicle body, the two panels connected to each other at leading ends thereof and diverging away from each other to trailing ends located adjacent the rear wheel assembly; and

a third panel having leading and trailing ends, with the trailing end of the third panel connected to the leading end of the wedge-shaped skirt.